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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/623,377

07/18/2003

Chung-Cheng Chen

21929/ 2898P

3205

7590

01/12/2006

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EXAMINER

CAVALLARI, DANIEL J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2836

DATE MAILED: 01/12/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/623,377

Applicant(s)

CHEN, CHUNG-CHENG

Examiner

Daniel J. Cavallari

Art Unit

2836

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 July 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Drawings*

The drawings are objected to because Figure 6 is illegible.

The quality of Figure 6 is insufficient for examination. The reference numbers are illegible and the drawing appears to contain reference numbers that are not used or explained in the specification. The drawing should only contain labels that are referred to in the specification. Figure 6 appears to be a collection of circuits that should each be individually identified and disclosed in the specification.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because they fail to show the "finite current source" as described in the specification. It is unclear what the charging power supply of the first device comprises as only a personal computer or notebook are disclosed which are not power sources in themselves. Although it is acknowledged that power can be drawn from these devices for other use, such a connection is not shown in detail in any of the drawings.

Any structural detail that is essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed invention should be shown in the drawing. MPEP § 608.02(d). Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and

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informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 1 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Claims 1 and 12 recite the limitation of an “electronic control apparatus to rectify, amplify and output an electric current...” however the first electronic device (power supply) is disclosed as “a personal computer or notebook” (See Specification, Page 4). It is commonly known in the art that a personal computer and notebook run on DC power and output DC power to their peripherals so it is unclear to the examiner the purpose of a rectifier as a rectifier is commonly known in the art as a device for converting alternating current to direct current.

Therefore, the specification fails to teach a device in which to “rectify, amplify and output an electric current...”

Claims 1 and 12 also include the limitation of "...a current source under a condition free of additional power supply..." however the specification discloses "The electric current control apparatus 2 includes a charger module 23. In case of the electric current control apparatus 2 being a personal computer or notebook, the charger module 23 may consist of a charger circuit having a capacitor or rechargeable battery. The electric current apparatus 2 charges up the charger module 23 by the electric current from the finite current source and inputted into the electric current control apparatus 2 through the transmission interface 11 of the first electronic device." (See Specification, Page 5). Although the specification fails to identify what comprises the "finite current source", it does imply that the finite current source is located in the first electronic device (i.e. personal computer or notebook). The finite current source constitutes a first power supply. The finite current source is responsible for charging the charger module (23) that comprises "a capacitor or rechargeable battery." The capacitor or rechargeable battery constitutes a second power supply which invalidates the claim limitation of "a current source free of additional power supply..."

Claim 1 also includes the limitation "...amplify electric power..." which is not taught in the specification. The specification teaches supplying power from the charger module (23) to a second device (i.e. HDD, CD-ROM, CD-R) but fails to teach an amplification of power. It is further unclear what is meant by amplifying power as power is defined by the product of voltage and current, shown in the equation  $P=V \cdot I$ . This

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being the case, either voltage or current would have to be increased in order to achieve an increase (amplification) in power and the claimed invention discloses "... a current source under a condition free of additional power supply..." This being the case, it is unclear how an increase in power can be achieved.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 4, 5, 6, 7 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In regard to Claim 4

- Claim 4 recites the limitation "amplify the electric power from the transmission interface of the first electronic device to have a first stage of voltage." It is unclear what is meant by amplifying the power.

In regard to Claims 4 & 5

- It is unclear what is meant by a "stage of voltage". A voltage stage is not a term regularly used in the electrical field and has not been adequately disclosed in the specification.

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In regard to Claims 8, 10, 17, & 19

- The industry standard IEEE 1394, which is used throughout the specification and the claims, must be clearly cited in the specification. The citation of the standard should include the full name of the standard, the publishing body, and the date the standard was enacted. The specification fails to provide this information rendering the claim indefinite.

Because of the 112 problems with Claims 1 and 12, Claims 1-19 cannot be examined against prior art.

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Lam (US 6,455,953) teaches a device which uses a USB port to power an electronic device such as a CD ROM which can be powered by the USB connection of a computer and supplemented with a battery to produce the necessary increased current conditions. This eliminates the need for an additional external power supply than that already provided to the computer (See Column 2, Line 31 to Column 3, Line 18).
- Afzal et al. (US 6,903,950) teaches a programmable power converter



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- Tsujikado et al. (US 2001/0030469) teaches a backup power source module for a computer incorporating a USB cable.
- Liu et al. (US 6,741,064) teaches a power charging system using a USB power connection.
- Kondo et al. (US 6,151,652) teaches a power supply system using an interface cable (4) such as a USB cable as well as a battery (13) in order to power computer peripheral electronics (See Figure 1)
- Houston (US 6,445,086) teaches an electronic power supply for a personal computer.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel J. Cavallari whose telephone number is (571)272-8541. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30-5:00.

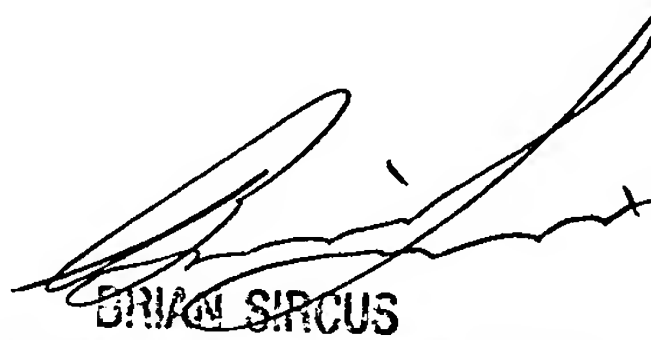
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus can be reached on (571)272-2800 x36. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DJC

December 30, 2005



BRIAN SIRCUS  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
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